

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/501,663	UCHIYAMA, TAKAYUKI
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Justin P Misleh	2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 28 September 2004.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 - 5 and 8 - 16 (now renumbered 1 - 14, respectively).
3. The drawings filed on 28 September 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____.	7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment
4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
	9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. **Claims 1 – 5 and 8 – 16** (now renumbered 1 – 14, respectively) are allowed.
2. The following is an Examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance:
 - o For **Claim 1**, while the prior art discloses a conductive elastic body that is clamped and becomes deformed between a shield plate and a conductive portion achieving a large grounding capacity and also placing the conductive elastic body along a periphery of the shield plate so as to fill any gaps between the shield plate and the circuit board, the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest wherein the camera body, of which the shield plate, circuit board, and conductive elastic body reside, includes a front cover and a rear cover and that conductive elastic body shields a gap at an area where the front cover and the rear cover are joined, from the circuit board.
 - o For **Claim 8**, while the prior art discloses an image-capturing element, a holder that holds the image-capturing element in a camera body, a circuit board, a shield plate that covers the circuit board, and a conductive elastic body that is clamped and becomes deformed between the shield plate and a conductive portion; the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest wherein the conductive elastic body is clamped and pressed between the shield plate and a conductive portion of the camera body.
 - o For **Claim 13**, while the prior art discloses an image-capturing element, a holder that holds the image-capturing element in a camera body, a circuit board, a shield plate that covers the circuit board, and a conductive elastic body that is clamped and becomes

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deformed between the shield plate and a conductive portion; the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest a first shield plate having an opening to allow wiring from the circuit board to drawn around and to cover the circuit board and a second shield plate that covers the first shield plate so as to cover the wiring opening and wherein the conductive elastic body is clamped and pressed between the first and second shield plates and a conductive portion of the camera body.

3. Any comments considered necessary by Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

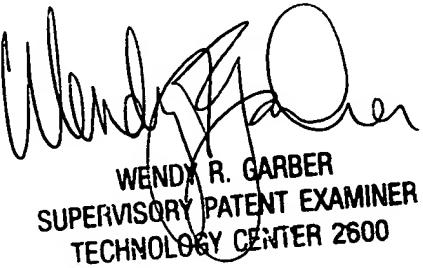
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Justin P Misleh whose telephone number is 703.305.8090 (571.272.7313 ~ March 2005). The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM and on alternating Fridays from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Wendy R Garber can be reached on 703.305.4929. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703.872.9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JPM
February 5, 2005



WENDY R. GARBER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600